AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.111

U.S. Appln. No. 09/896,116

REMARKS

Claims 1-33 have been examined. Claim 9 has been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a),

and the Examiner indicates that 1-8 and 10-33 contain allowable subject matter. Applicant has

amended claim 9 to include the limitations of allowable claim 33 and has amended claim 22 into

independent form.

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed

to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the

Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is

kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue

Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any

overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

Registration No. 41,278

Grant K. Rowan

SUGHRUE MION, PLLC

Telephone: (202) 293-7060

Facsimile: (202) 293-7860

WASHINGTON OFFICE

23373

CUSTOMER NUMBER

Date: April 20, 2004

10